

Application No.: 10/821,860

Docket No.: 713-1121

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A screw anchor ~~[[(1)]]~~ having comprising:
a deformable central portion ~~[[(2)]]~~ in which ~~[[four]]~~ main longitudinal slots ~~[[(8)]]~~ are formed, the main longitudinal slots extending essentially parallel to a plane on which a longitudinal axis of the screw anchor lies, and defining deformable main longitudinal anchoring tongues which lie on opposite sides of the plane; said screw anchor (1) being characterized by comprising and
~~a number of~~ secondary longitudinal slots ~~[[(10)]]~~ formed in said central portion ~~[[(2)]]~~.
- 2.. (Currently amended) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ each said secondary longitudinal slot ~~[[(10)]]~~ defines, on said central portion ~~[[(2)]]~~ and with an adjacent main longitudinal slot ~~[[(8)]]~~ and/or an adjacent secondary longitudinal slot ~~[[(10)]]~~, respective deformable secondary longitudinal anchoring tongues ~~[[(11)]]~~.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Currently amended) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 2, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ each ~~[[said]]~~ deformable secondary longitudinal anchoring tongue ~~[[(11)]]~~ has a substantially serrated profile.
5. (Currently amended) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ each said deformable main longitudinal anchoring tongue ~~[[(9)]]~~ has a substantially serrated profile.

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6. (Currently amended) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said main longitudinal slots ~~[(8)]~~ are spaced ~~angularly~~ apart on said central portion (2).
7. (Currently amended) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said main longitudinal slots ~~[(8)]~~ are spaced ~~angularly~~ apart.
8. (Currently amended) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, ~~characterized in~~ wherein that said secondary longitudinal slots ~~[(10)]~~ comprise four slots which are arranged in two pairs wherein the slots of each pair are parallel to each other and wherein the pairs are arranged in a mirror image relationship with each other face and are coplanar with one another in pairs.
9. (Currently amended) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each secondary longitudinal slot ~~[(10)]~~ is equidistant from the slots of each pair of two adjacent main longitudinal slots ~~[(8)]~~.
10. (Currently amended) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, ~~characterized by further~~ comprising a collar ~~[(3)]~~ at a first end of said central portion ~~[(2)]~~; said collar ~~[(3)]~~ having an annular flange ~~[(5)]~~ coaxial with said longitudinal axis ~~[(A)]~~.
11. (Currently amended) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 10, ~~characterized by further~~ comprising a number of equally spaced projecting appendixes ~~[(6)]~~ integral with said collar ~~[(3)]~~ and extending parallel to said longitudinal axis ~~[(A)]~~.
12. (Currently amended) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 10, ~~characterized by further~~ comprising a head ~~[(4)]~~ at a second end of said central portion ~~[(2)]~~.
13. (Currently amended) A screw anchor as claimed in Claim 1, ~~characterized by further~~ comprising a through hole ~~[(7)]~~ coaxial with said longitudinal axis ~~[(A)]~~; said through hole ~~[(7)]~~ having, internally, a number of longitudinal ribs ~~[(12)]~~ parallel to said longitudinal axis ~~[(A)]~~.

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14. (New) A screw anchor comprising:

deformable main longitudinal anchoring tongues which are arranged diametrically opposite one another with respect to a longitudinal axis of the screw anchor; and

secondary longitudinal anchoring tongues arranged in essentially mirror image pairs wherein each pair is arranged diametrically opposite the longitudinal axis.

15. (New) A screw anchor as claimed in claim 14, wherein the main longitudinal anchoring tongues are separated by main longitudinal slots which extend essentially parallel to a plane on which the longitudinal axis of the screw anchor lies, and wherein the main longitudinal anchoring tongues lie on opposite sides of the plane.

16. (New) A screw anchor as claimed in claim 14, wherein the pairs of secondary longitudinal anchoring tongues are separated by secondary longitudinal slots which extend essentially radially with respect to the longitudinal axis.

17. (New) A screw anchor comprising:

main longitudinal slot means for defining main longitudinal tongues wherein each tongue is located on an opposites side of a plane on which a longitudinal axis of the screw anchor lies; and

secondary longitudinal slot means for defining pairs of secondary anchoring tongues wherein the pairs are configured so that the anchoring tongues of each pair are each located on opposite sides of the plane.